

# Editorial Opinions of Affairs.

"While the republic endures let us advocate what the great masses of the people believe in."—GOVERNOR JOHN M. PATTISON.

## GREATER LOGAN.

The proposition to extend the incorporation line of Logan is meeting with some favor with our people. There are many uneven and unfair jogs in the present line by the accepting of additions here and there, so that the proposition now is to survey a general line on the north side of the village, beginning at a point at the Old Town creek, running west on the top of the Sweaney hill past Oak Grove cemetery to the old Riff residence, thence south to the river, thence follow the river south-east to the mouth of Goose Creek, north to the railroad, follow the railroad east to the Old Town creek, and north along the creek to the place of beginning.

This would take in valuable territory and conform the line to more regular boundaries. The most valuable property taken in by the extension would be the railroad shops and yards. The councils of former years were interested in taking the railroad property into the corporation, but there was a pending proposition on foot then looking to the location of the railroad repair shops at this point, thus being a great help to our town. The former councils were wont to encourage this building by leaving the proposed location out of the incorporation, and our citizens offered to buy a 50 acre sight for such shops, but the matter was let drop, and now the present council have taken up the old resolution to extend the incorporation line to the Hocking river, which seems the natural boundary for the south side of the village. This would increase the railroad taxes some, but impose upon the village the protection of the railroad property and of lighting the railroad yards. The whole matter is a gigantic proposition, that will conform the village lines to the now existing school district, and necessitate the extension of water and sewer systems, and increase the lighting expense to one-half more street lights. It would increase the population probably 1,000 and transform Logan from a village to a city. The council committee have been appointed to secure an engineer which they have done in the person of James Behout, to make a survey of the proposed lines and submit a plat to the council. After the survey is submitted the council will take up the plat, line at a time and hear its merits or demerits in all its phases and decide upon the best possible extension, to conform to the best interests of all concerned. Some most beautiful farms may be taken into the village, which would at once become valuable as town lots. Logan is due to have a most unprecedented year of advancement and improvement, and with the decennial reappraisal coming on, when property will be more equally valued, taxes should be lower and yet more money raised to make this the most thrifty and most beautiful little city in Southern Ohio. Let us work for that end. Lay aside personal prejudice and let us all help the village council to bring about the best results for our town and for all concerned.

## We Need More Honesty Rather Than More Law

By Professor F. R. MECHER of Chicago University

WE hear much in these days of the failure of the law to accomplish its contemplated ends. We are confronted on every side by evidences of dishonesty, corruption and BREACH OF TRUST, which not only appeal us, but often make us tremble for the safety of our institutions.

Now I am among those who believe that more law is not our greatest need. I think I am not moved merely by professional blindness or conceit when I say that, in the main, our laws are good and REASONABLY ADEQUATE. Fraud and corruption, the giving and taking of rebates, the building up of grinding monopolies, whether of labor or capital, have not flourished merely because there was NO LAW against them.

Another alarming characteristic is the apparent sense of IRRESPONSIBILITY OF INDIVIDUALS for the action of the groups to which they belong. Personal responsibility is everywhere diminished as the number of participants increases.

THE TWO MOST STRIKING ILLUSTRATIONS ARE TO BE FOUND IN THE LABOR UNIONS AND THE GREAT CORPORATIONS.

## Champ Clark's Letter

Missouri Republicans in Bitter Fight—Patronage the Bone of Contention—A Good Tariff Speech—The Duty on Lead

(Special Washington Letter.) THE Republican factions in Missouri are having one of the fiercest and most spectacular Kentucky cat fights on record. They are making the far fly in the most approved fashion. They are at each other's throat in a death grapple. They laugh to scorn the beautiful One Hundred and Thirty-third Psalm, which begins in this wise: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." The bone of contention among the palpitating patriots is the patronage, state and federal. Of course, as an aid to securing official pie is the state organization, for which they are now waging battle. One faction is headed by Hon. Thomas K. Niedringhaus, present chairman, who was the regular campaign nominee for United States senator when Major William Warner gobbled that luscious plum, a performance which Hon. Thomas K. grieves over even to this day. He will probably reflect bitterly upon that misadventure even on his death bed. He has always blamed Colonel Richard C. Kerens for that thwarting of his ambition, and not without cause. For Colonel Dick led the bolt which eventuated in Colonel Tom's defeat. The old dictum, "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned," should be amended so as to read, "Hell hath no fury like a Republican statesman deprived of his pap." Colonel Kerens was deprived of pap which he believed rightfully belonged to him, because he had paid for it in hard cash, hence his fury to the point of boiling.

Colonel Tom thought that he had an indefeasible title to the pap because he had bought it, but Colonel Kerens claimed that the money he had been contributing for years to the Republican campaign in Missouri was his own, earned by the sweat of his face in many a deal, while he alleged that the purchase money on which Colonel Tom based his claim was not Colonel Tom's, but belonged to others; hence Colonel Dick bolted and, not being able to gobble the senatorship for himself and being determined that under no circumstances should Colonel Tom have it, made Major William Warner the beneficiary at an expense to the major of a score of duets—spent on hotel bills, Colonel Tom and Colonel Dick bite their thumbs at each other when they meet, and their feud is as bitter as that between the ancient houses of Montague and Capulet, which William Shakespeare, Lord Bacon or whoever wrote "Romeo and Juliet" has embodied in immortal verse. It's as impossible to make peace betwixt them as it is to mix water and oil. The governor of North Carolina once remarked to the governor of South Carolina, "It's a long time between drinks." So with Missouri Republicans it's a long time between United States senatorships—thirty years, to be exact. Colonel Kerens and Colonel Niedringhaus agree on one thing and one thing only, and that is that they do not want to wait three decades for another senatorial seat to come accidentally to some Missouri Republican. In the meantime Major William Warner, a most estimable gentleman, is a living illustration of the ancient saying that "it's better to be born lucky than rich."

Sad Tale of a Fluke. In reference to a statement of a remarkable fluke, The Republican managers in Missouri—that is, the anti-Niedringhaus managers—concluded to pull off a large function at St. Louis April 26. As their chief drawing card they invited that pre-eminent stand pater, Hon. Leslie M. Shaw, secretary of the treasury, advertised his coming in gorgeous type and proceeded to send out several thousand embossed invitations to the elect. They proposed to put the big pot in the little one and do things up the line. The invited guests were going along swimmingly until Colonel Niedringhaus discovered that Colonel Kerens was to be among the guests. Then the fat was in the fire. Colonel Tom got up on his ear and declared with such heat that it made things sizzle that under no circumstances would he sit at the same table or be caught in the same crowd with Colonel Dick. Thereupon Colonel Simon Harris, who is high up in the anti-Niedringhaus faction, sent forth a bellow of rage which would double discount the loudest performance of the bull of Bashan in the heyday of his lung power, and which a voracious character declares waked up the somnolent catfish in the Mississippi river from Lake Itasca to the Gulf of Mexico. The "Niedringhausers, taking their cue from Colonel Tom, at once began to flood the committee with declinations. Consequently, what was intended to be the grand opening of the Republican campaign in Missouri bids fair to be the beginning of the end of the G. O. P. in that imperial commonwealth.

Of all words of tongue or pen the saddest are these: "It might have been."

A Republican Who Thinks For Himself. One of the most creditable men on the Republican side of the house is Hon. James Brock Perkins of Rochester, N. Y. He has not only read and studied much, but he has written much. His principal works are "France Under

Mazarin," "France Under Louis XV," and "A Life of Richelieu." He is a staunch Republican, but he asserts the right to think and speak for himself. There is no trace of the demagogue or mountebank in his composition. April 7 he delivered a speech in the house which was a literary treat. In a general way it was on the tariff. Specifically he dealt with the lead schedule and industry. Those who desire to peruse a philosophic discussion of that item in particular and kindred subjects in general would do well to send to Mr. Perkins for his luminous dissertation. The keynote to his remarks was this paragraph: "I am one of those who believe that the tariff ought to be reformed by its friends. We not only say we believe it, but we do believe it. We know it is a mistake to say that if it is not reformed by its friends it will sooner or later, and perchance sooner, be modified by those who, in my judgment, are better qualified to do so. Kindly feeling for the same degree of intelligence to deal with the question. It is not the first time in the world's history that it has been solemnly proclaimed that present conditions should remain unchanged, and it will not be the first time in the world's history that such solemn resolutions have come to naught."

The Duty on Lead. After certain other prefatory remarks Mr. Perkins began his dissertation of lead as follows: "Mr. Chairman, the article of lead is one of universal use. It is used by the rich and the poor, the noble and the ignoble, in enormous quantities. For instance, by the great corporations that manufacture telephone apparatus, it is used in enormous quantities by other great manufacturing concerns, and it is used by the poor man who puts a sink in his kitchen and has a nail driven in carrying off the roof. So there we see something of universal use. Used as it is by all, any increase in the price of lead must be paid by all this country's users. If the price of a pound of lead is 5 cents instead of 3 cents, it is evident to every one that that additional price is paid by all the people of this country. It is not only in private life or business combination have occasion to use lead. So I think that all will agree that any increase in the price of this article falls upon the entire community."

The next question that we come to is, "What is the duty which has been imposed upon lead ore and pig lead? Without at all wishing to join those who are vociferous in their attacks upon trusts I would commend to the eloquence of any gentleman who desires to make that an object as a most excellent example of the kind of thing that is to be avoided, the American Smelting company."

The American Smelting company was organized in 1891, very shortly after the passage of the Sherman act. It was made up by a combination of smaller companies and was organized with a capital of \$1,000,000. It had a one-half interest in the American Smelting company, which was afterward increased to \$100,000,000. One-half preferred and one-half common stock, which was afterward increased to \$100,000,000. There have been since organized and are owned or controlled by that corporation, first the Federal Mining company, with a capital of \$100,000,000; preferred and common stock, \$100,000,000; next the American Smelters' Securities company, with a capital of \$100,000,000; preferred and common stock, \$100,000,000; last the United Lead company, with a capital of \$100,000,000; preferred and common stock, \$100,000,000.

People Pay the Profit. Further along Mr. Perkins, in speaking of the different prices of lead in Canada and New York, said: "In the price the enhanced price of 50 cents for which pig lead is now sold in the city of New York—necessary in order to cover the enhanced cost of lead in this country? In other words, if lead can be sold at 35 cents in London and can be sold at Toronto at the same price, is it necessary to have a duty of 2 cents in order to cover the enhanced cost of getting out the lead in this country?"

To that, Mr. Chairman, there are two answers. In the first place, I do not believe that the enhanced price of 50 cents for this lead is a result of the operation of this house which believes that with the richness of American mines, with the facilities of American machinery, with the enterprise of American operators, lead ore cannot be produced in the United States as cheaply as it can in any other part of the world. I believe it can be produced more cheaply here.

But there is another answer, Mr. Chairman. We have seen these corporations organized with a capital of \$100,000,000. It is a fact that the American Smelting company, which represented, doubtless at a very liberal valuation, the cost of the various plants and equipment, and the cost of the results, certainly they were entitled to a fair profit on that, and if it was necessary to have a duty upon lead, pig lead or lead ore to enable these engaged in that business to obtain a fair profit for one would be entirely willing to support such a measure. But the report of the smelting company shows a profit, a net profit, for the last year of \$200,000,000. Its report and that of the other subsidiary companies show that the American Smelting company had not obtained—In other words, if the profits had been \$750,000 less it would have made more than a fair liberal dividend upon every dollar of preferred stock of these various corporations. In other words, the enhanced price of lead has furnished the possibility of paying

dividends upon \$100,000,000 of common stock.

The \$2,000,000 which is estimated the American Smelting company and its subsidiary companies make by reason of this tax pays of itself a dividend of 7 per cent on a hundred million dollars. In other words, as the result of this specific schedule on lead and here I come up to the precise question—it is possible to give value to a hundred millions of stock that represented nothing but the paper upon which it was printed, and the increased price of lead which has made this profit possible has been paid by every man that in the United States uses lead. Is a schedule to be forever retained that makes possible the creation of imaginary property and yields a profit on it, a profit which is paid by those who certainly are quite as much entitled to the benefit of the government's friendly hand? Take the American Smelting company. Its common stock when first issued represented no property. Some was sold early in its history at 25, 30 and 40 and that was clear profit. The subsidiary companies received preferred stock for their property and a vast amount of common stock as bonus, and the man who sold this and got 30 or 40 cents on the dollar did well.

In the more sagacious man who held on did better, because as a result of the enhanced price which the American Smelting company, controlling 50 per cent, has been able to fix upon lead all this stock has become valuable. It pays dividends. The last report of the smelting company showed that on its \$500,000,000 of common stock it had earned 11 per cent. It is not necessary to trouble this house with the earnings of the other subsidiary companies. The common stock of the smelting company, which sold at first for 25 or 40, now sells at 150 to 170, and its friends say that there is yet before it a bright future. The common stock of the Federal Mining company has not advanced so much, but it has advanced over seventy-five points.

In other words, if the figures that I have submitted are correct, the common stock of these various corporations is now worth at a present valuation justified by their earnings at least \$500,000,000. That is what it would sell for, roughly, today. That is what it is worth today, judged by the exchange market and the returns it is enabled to pay.

Laying Up Treasures. Different people have different ideas as to the purpose of criminal prosecutions, some believing that the end to be secured is the punishment of the criminal, others that it is to prevent crime. Some hold that both ends are sought. However that may be, our old friend Judge William Jefferson Poland of St. Louis, he of the weird and wondrous voice, holds that the reform of the criminal is the chief end for which criminal laws were made. Consequently, with the courage and common sense which mark all his actions, he has instituted a reform system of his own in the Second district police court which works like a charm. His scheme is to have prisoners sign a total abstinence pledge as a condition precedent to being liberated on parole. How much soberness and happiness Poland has caused will never be known this side the great judgment day. He is doing a splendid work. Charity is his motto—perhaps because he is a thirty-second degree Mason, or it may be that he is a thirty-second degree Mason because charity is his motto. Anyway, he is laying up treasures where there are no moths and robbers by making husbands and fathers sober.

Brayed the Stand Patters. Hon. Henry T. Rainey is the sole Democrat in congress from Illinois, but he is a host within himself. Young, robust mentally and physically, a superb specimen of the genus homo, with a splendid voice, fine stage presence and pleasing delivery, he is a man to keep one's eye on, for he is crowding his way to the fore. Recently he made a speech in congress, occupying portions of two days, on the subject of watches, which is quite likely to set men to examining their chronometers.

He counted the hours till the day when we shall have a Democratic house. When he began the stand pat Republicans thought to have some fun with Rainey, but before he had been going twenty minutes it was clear to all that he was thorough master of his subject and was having fun with the stand patters. During the last hour of his great speech they let him severely alone on the principle that "a burnt child dreads the fire" and "a scalded cat dreads cold water." He brayed the stand patters in a mortar and pleased his Democratic brethren immensely. His speech will be widely circulated, eagerly read and will be an excellent campaign document.

Alack and alas! Suit has been brought against ex-Boss George B. Cox of Cincinnati and some of his side partners to compel them to disgorge. If this thing is kept up there will be a great lack of Republican leaders when the forest is on the pumpkin. The American people are really opposed to bossism, but as a general thing they are too busy chasing the almighty dollar to pay much attention to politics. When they do pay attention to it, however, it is amazing to see how easy it is to topple the bosses over. Cox can make his affidavit to that fact. So can Iz Durham. So can Benjamin R. Odell.

The spring elections all over the country show substantial Democratic gains. Of course these were for municipal offices, and it is only fair to state that in many instances local issues were decisive of the results. Nevertheless, as the Democrats gained in at least ten cities and towns where the Republicans gained in one, no fair minded observer will deny that national issues had much to do with the voting. Everybody concedes that the Democrats will make heavy gains in the congressional elections, and many believe that we will control the next house.

She's half gone anyway. But critics are critics, and pork is pork. Sammy Tottle's mast fed bacon is the best in three counties, and "if you don't look out 'twill be all frizzled up together to oneet and nobody's tongue get a taste of it. Never you mind the fire, men. Turn to and haul out them pigs!"

Greatest Dreaming. A young lady of Philadelphia, after partaking heartily of scrapple, retired and dreamed that she had lost her watch, a valued present from her father. When she awoke in the morning she recalled her vivid dream, and, looking at the place where she could have sworn that she had placed it, lo, it was gone! She told her father and brother, and they, making no doubt that it had been stolen, reported the matter to the police, and the pawnshops were hunted in vain. On the next night the young woman dreamed again. This time she dreamed that before retiring she had hidden the watch in an old shoe in the bottom of a closet. Upon arising next morning she recalled the dream and out of curiosity explored the old shoes in the closet and found the watch.

And Not Saying a Word. After a fight on James island, South Carolina, in 1862, there was among the wounded a young fellow suffering intensely and making an unusual amount of noise. General Williams, in command, when passing through the hospital quarters approached the soldier and in a gruff voice asked, "What's the matter with you?" The soldier, pointing to his foot, replied, "I'm wounded." The general said: "Stop your noise! Stop your noise! There are men lying around with their heads knocked off and not saying a word."

Many structures of antiquity testify most forcibly to the durability of concrete. That used in the construction of the pyramids of Egypt seems to have so hardened with age as to resist the penetration of stone drills. Natural stone, on the other hand, tends to disintegrate with the passing of the centuries.

## The Commercial Influence on Legislation

By HERBERT S. HADLEY, Attorney General of Missouri



BEHIND the political boss is the industrial boss, the captain of industry. If you will search for an explanation as to how and why it was that the city council or state legislature has been bribed, you will, in the great majority of cases, find that some business interest has been seeking some SPECIAL PRIVILEGE OR DISHONEST ADVANTAGE which it could not secure by the honest judgment of the representatives of the people.

The explanation of the unfair railroad freight rate, the midnight tariff, the drawback or rebate, is that some commercial interest represents a power and an influence in our industrial life strong enough to demand AND SECURE such unlawful privileges.

To my mind the vital problem that confronts the American people today is the question as to whether these great commercial enterprises can CONTINUE in open defiance and violation of the laws of the nation and the state.

It is a conservative statement, fully sustained by the investigations of those familiar with our economic conditions, that a large portion, if not the greater portion, of the trade and commerce of this country is controlled by corporate interests WHICH ARE UNLAWFUL either in the plan of their organization or in the method in which their business is conducted.

I do not believe that such conditions can continue to exist in our national life. I do not believe that our industrial and commercial system will be overthrown or destroyed. I do not believe that Socialism OR GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP offers a solution or a remedy.

But I do believe that our industrial system cannot continue to exist HALF LAWFUL, HALF UNLAWFUL. I believe that the American people will see to it that the unlawful shall cease and conform itself to those laws which represent the experience of centuries and the moral judgment of 80,000,000 people.

And I believe that this will be accomplished as the result of an aroused public sentiment AND CONSCIENCE which will require that men who would be respectable must be honest; that those who would be respected by others must respect the rights of others, which will require that lawyers cease to be accessories to violations of the law and be true to the principles and the traditions of their profession, which will require that courts shall learn that time is the essence of litigation and cease to place THE FORM ABOVE THE SUBSTANCE and the method above the right.

In the solution and the settlement of these great questions Missouri will endeavor to do her part. She will proceed without prejudice AND WITHOUT PASSION. She will proceed with caution and deliberation.

AND SHE WILL PROCEED IN SUCH A WAY THAT NO ONE CAN TRUTHFULLY SAY THAT WITHIN HER DOMAIN A SINGLE DOLLAR INVESTED IN AN HONEST BUSINESS ENTERPRISE HAS SUFFERED DIMINUTION IN ITS VALUE OR THAT AUGHT OF PREJUDICE AGAINST WEALTH, AS SUCH, DIRECTS HER ACTIONS.

## VILLAGE FIREMEN.

Some Funny Stories Told of Amateur Blaze Fighters.

Rural fire departments, especially in the early days of organization, have often afforded material for comedy, says Youth's Companion. Had hand tubs and ladder companies been known in Shakespeare's day it is easy to imagine that English literature might have been enriched by the portrait of some rustic fire chief fit to pass down to immortality with those of the country watchmen and justices we know so well. T. E. Lawlor has recently recorded some suggestive bits from English villages.

In Cornwall at an alarm of fire a member of a newly formed fire company was seen standing on a corner gazing in a dazed way at a brisk fire in progress some distance down the street. At last he was overheard murmuring to himself:

"A proper blaze—it sure be a proper blaze! A must go home and put on my uniform. Yes, it be a blaze worth getting on my new boots for, tight though 'en be."

At another fire the company, assembled hastily in an unlighted village lane, had no lanterns and in a darkness deepened by a thick smoke as yet unlighted by flame, were helplessly wondering what they could do and where to make their attack. Suddenly a tongue of flickering red shot up from the smoldering building, and the firemen, with a shout, prepared to turn the hose upon it. The captain grabbed the nearest fire fighter and jerked him and the nozzle he was directing violently aside.

"Ere, you lunked!" he shouted. "Old 'ard! If you wasn't goin' to put out the bonny light we've got to see the fire by!"

At the burning of a large barn another village chief was so intent on personally getting out the live stock that he left the conduct of the fight against the fire entirely to his subordinates, who were sadly in need of direction. On being remonstrated with he declared excitedly:

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She's half gone anyway. But critics are critics, and pork is pork. Sammy Tottle's mast fed bacon is the best in three counties, and "if you don't look out 'twill be all frizzled up together to oneet and nobody's tongue get a taste of it. Never you mind the fire, men. Turn to and haul out them pigs!"

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